

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, EAST HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 9

Call to Order: Trustees of School District No. 9 met in regular session on October 11, 2010 at East Valley Middle School Library. Chairman Ann Marie Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance and Introduction of Board Members

Trustees Present: Chairman Ann Marie Thompson, Marcia Ellermeyer, Mark Diehl, Debbie Hunsaker, Breck Scheet, Scott Walter and Kit Johnson. Superintendent Ron Whitmoyer and Clerk Kim Aarstad.

Principals present: Joe McMahon, Jill Miller & Dan Rispens, Mike Agostinelli and Technology Coordinator, Jeanette Winslow.

Visitors: Sean Harris, Scott Harris, Jared Northrup, Ed Sivils, Pete Ratzlaff, Stetger Ratzlaff, Caltin Sivils, Kirk Leikam, Jace Leikam, Joe Cohenour, Don Hoffman, Faye Ann Cummings, Jason Cummings, Katy Hauer, Serra Scheet, Liz Townsend, Ruth Torkildson, Marilyn Siroky, Heather Shippen, Nick Turner, Dennis Loveless, Marya Warren, Shana Dachs, Kerry Logan, Tracey Rogstad and Jana Nygaard.

Agenda

Motion by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Scheet to accept the agenda as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Reports

Report on Brett Hoffman Recognition for Eagle Scout Project

Superintendent Whitmoyer recognized Brett Hoffman for his Eagle Scout Project. His project was a 100 X 100 community garden that was established at East Valley Middle School.

Report on Radley School Closing the Achievement Gap Award

Superintendent Whitmoyer congratulated the staff on receiving the closing the achievement gap award. Principal McMahon introduced the staff that was in attendance at the Board Meeting. Chairman Thompson thanked the staff for all their hard work.

Student Report

Jayson Cummings, Student Council Treasurer, reported that the student council was working on a red ribbon float for the up-coming parade. The last dance was a great success. Two blood drawings will be held on November 11, 2010 and February 14, 2011. Student Council recently purchased three microwaves for the lunchroom.

Community Reports of the Board

Superintendent Whitmoyer reported that as a precursor to negotiations with classified staff, a meeting will be held on October 14, 2010. The insurance pool will be discussed.

High School Trustee Report

Joe Cohenour, High School Trustee, reported that the district hired the following Administrators:

Nick Radley – Bryant School Principal

Craig Crawford – PAL High School Principal

Elisabeth Hudnutt – Capital High Principal

The board also discussed that the enrollment numbers were up for Helena High: average student count for the 2009-2010 school year was 1593. Fall count is currently at 1610. The third and final reading on the Health Curriculum will be at the next board meeting held on October 12, 2010.

Consent Action Items

- A. Minutes of the Regular meeting – September 13, 2010
- B. Approval of August 2010 former and new warrants (Warrant #33488 - 33575 and payroll #40681- 40790)
- C. Personnel Actions
 - Personnel Resignations Accepted
 - i. None at this time
 - Recommended Employment of Personnel
 - i. Terry Wolkoff – Kitchen Aide
 - ii. Nicole Campbell – Substitute
 - iii. Trina Ereth – Substitute
 - iv. Twila Elenbaas – Substitute
 - v. Walt Joyce – Substitute
 - vi. Bill Hurford – Substitute

Motion by Trustee Diehl, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to accept the consent items as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Unfinished Business

Board Policy Revisions 2nd Reading

Motion by Trustee Ellemeyer, seconded by Trustee Scheet to accept the second reading of board policy 5020. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Montana Conference on Education Leadership (Billings October 20, 21, 22)

Superintendent Whitmoyer updated the board on the Montana Conference on Education Leadership (MCEL) that is being held in Billings, October 20-22, 2010.

New Business

Payment of Claims Regarding Quality Schools Grant

Kim Aarstad, Business Manager/Clerk, requested permission to pay the Quality School Grant claims as they come in.

Superintendent Whitmoyer explained that the district contractor was putting in requests for payment to the Department of Commerce. These funds are then transferred into the county treasurer for payment. District policy states that all claims must have board approval before they can be paid and if the contractor has to wait for this approval they could be waiting 4 to 6 weeks for payment.

Motion by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to have the clerk pay the requested funds allocated by the Department of Commerce from the Quality School Grant. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Property Holdings in the Vicinity of East Helena Public Schools

Superintendent Whitmoyer explained that Asarco has property that they are considering disbursing in the future. Some of this property is located adjacent to Radley Elementary. Superintendent Whitmoyer explained that with the continued growth in the district he would like to contact Asarco and see what plans they have for the property.

Superintendent Whitmoyer will contact Asarco and schedule a meeting to discuss the future plans of their property.

EVMS Bond Funds for Parking

Superintendent Whitmoyer explained that the district currently has a fund balance of \$32,000.00 from the EVMS bonds that were issued in 1994. This ongoing balance has come under scrutiny by the Office of Public Instruction. They are stating that the funds need to be spent and not be rolled over each year. District auditors are suggesting funds should be spent on activities that were intended with the bond issuance.

With the current parking issues at EVMS, Superintendent Whitmoyer would like to build an additional gravel parking lot. Total Cost of this project would be \$39,000.00.

Trustee Walter noted that a claim has been submitted for \$3450.00 for Phillip Porrini. Mr. Porrini will be doing an architectural drawing of the parking lot and would be project manager if the board decides to do the project.

Superintendent Whitmoyer explained that there should not be a bill for this project.

Business Manager/Clerk, Kim Aarstad stated she would pull the claim until work is completed.

Motion by Trustee Hunsaker, seconded by Trustee Diehl to have Superintendent Whitmoyer get concrete bids for the budget, and to have the project completed as long it stays within the \$32,000.00 budget.

Trustee Diehl, Hunsaker, Ellermeyer, Johnson, Thompson and Scheet "Yes"

Trustee Walter "No"

Motion carried.

City Hall Halloween Night Out

Superintendent Whitmoyer invited the trustees to the Halloween celebration that will be held on October 31st, from 5:00 to 7:00 at the East Helena City Hall.

Final Edits to the Superintendent Evaluation Form for November

Superintendent Whitmoyer presented the proposed final version of the Superintendent evaluation form.

Trustee Walter went over the evaluation and explained the evaluation process.

Board was in agreement that comments will be given to the Superintendent on the night of his evaluation, but that these comments will not be included in the final evaluation paperwork.

Motion by Trustee Diehl, seconded by Trustee Johnson to adopt the superintendent evaluation form and that comments will not be included in the final evaluation process. Unanimous vote for the motion.

MASS Letter to Governor

Superintendent Whitmoyer presented a copy of a letter that was delivered to the Governor from the Montana Association of School Superintendents regarding the removal of 30.7 million of State of Montana support from the general fund budgets of schools and replacing it with 30.7 million of Jobs Bill monies meant to save teaching jobs.

Legislative Issues and Platform for Schools

Superintendent Whitmoyer presented a list of potential bills that will be brought to the legislature; these bills will affect Montana schools.

Hear the Public

Dennis Loveless introduced himself to the board and public and announced that he was running for District Court Judge.

Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting will be held on November 8, 2010 at the Radley Elementary Gym.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Clerk, Kim Aarstad

Approved by: _____ Date _____
Chairman, Board of Trustee